



January 2002!

This is *your* newsletter. To submit information, update, or ask questions, please contact Audrey Smolkin at 215-861-4794 or by e-mail at: asmolkin@hrsa.gov

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Greetings CAPpers,

Welcome to 2002!

FUNDING! As you know, the Community Access Program received \$105 million in the FY 2002 Labor/HHS Appropriations bill. We are currently in the process of determining how these funds will be distributed between current and possible new grantees and will be in touch shortly with more information.

SIX MONTH UPDATES: Six Month Project Updates have been sent via e-mail to all CAP grantees initially funded in September 2000 and March 2001. The completed template and an updated logic model are due to be returned to Teresa Brown, CAP Evaluation Coordinator, by **February 15, 2002** (tbrown@hrsa.gov). If your collaborative was funded in September 2000 or March 2001 and have not received these materials, please be in touch with Teresa Brown immediately!

CONTACT INFORMATION: If you have not already done so, please make sure to update any necessary contact information for your Community Access Program primary contact by visiting the website (www.capcommunity.hrsa.gov) and clicking on forms. The forms link is in the upper right corner of each page. You will need to include the official name of the grantee organization and the grant number. This information can be found on your Notice of Grant Award.

REDESIGN: All grantees who applied for re-design workshops should be hearing about their applications within the next week. Any questions should be directed to Audrey.

RETURN ON COMMUNITY INVESTMENT: We had great conversations about return on community investment at the recent conference. We are now following up! Two requests: 1) We are now **collecting additional community business plans** for integrated delivery systems, so if you have one to share, please send to Rick Wilk (rwilk@hrsa.gov). Rick is part of the Center for Communities in Action, and focuses on business and fiscal community issues. The need to remove proprietary or identifier information is understandable. Sharing your Community Business Plan can help others move their community toward 100% Access

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and 0 Health Disparities. 2) We are also working on the **development of a Return on Community Investment methodology**. Please share any information you have on your community's ROI plan with rwilk@hrsa.gov. If you are interested in being part of a larger discussion on these issues, please be in touch with Rick (312-353-1307).

LISTSERVS: The CAP grantee listservs are up and running. The listserv topics include pharmacy, MIS, Case Management, and Evaluation and can be found at www.capcommunity.hrsa.gov. To join, visit the website and click on the listserv link on the upper right corner of the page.

Thanks, Audrey

Audrey Smolkin
215-861-4794
asmolkin@hrsa.gov

GRANTEE NEWS

Gateway to Care Houston, Texas

The Harris County Community Access Collaborative recently made the Houston Chronicle for their work on reducing inappropriate emergency room visits. Among other important goals of their collaborative, they hope to decrease the number of non-critical ER visits by 5-10% in the first year in their pilot area.

Northland Healthcare Alliance Bismarck, North Dakota

Northland Healthcare Alliance was founded in 1996 with the mission of advancing delivery of healthcare in local communities in support of enhancing access to quality healthcare services. The Alliance covers 32 counties in central and western North Dakota. Northland Healthcare initiated its Community Access Program in October of 2001 in response to the identified lack of access to available public and private programs, dental care services and behavioral health services for the uninsured.

Northland's Community Access Program has made great strides in attaining these objectives: hiring a project director and dental coordinator and beginning program initiatives in this area; hiring 10 Community Resource Coordinators (CRC) to provide enrollment and education for safety net users along with training programs for the CRCs; a CRC networking system to facilitate information sharing and program development; on-going design of evaluation tools; MIS program research; and a CAP Media Campaign with videos, newsletters and news articles!

Middlesex CAP Middlesex, Connecticut

Congratulations to Middlesex Community Access Program for becoming one of the first 18 organizations nationwide to receive National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) pre-accreditation status for their work on disease management in asthma and diabetes. They are part of an impressive group that is going to be making strides in disease management quality assurance.

CAP TA CALLS

Technical Assistance Calls

Technical assistance calls for grantees continue to be held every other Tuesday starting at 2:00 PM EST. The schedule for January appears below. To register for the calls, please contact our contractor, Angelique Raptakis, at 301-468-6006 ext. 501 or at araptakis@mac1988.com. Please register with your name and contact information at least one week prior to the call.

CAP TA Calls

Date

Topic

January 8

Six Month Project Updates

As of January 2, 2002, Six Month Project Update templates have been sent to the grantees funded in September 2000 and March 2001. The reporting period for these updates includes March 2001 through August 2001 and are due back by February 1, 2002. Please join Teresa Brown on this call to discuss the current status of the program-wide CAP evaluation, including the logic model and the Six Month Project Update. The call will include an extensive question and answer period.

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Measuring the Uninsured

Please join Lynn Blewett of the State Health Access Data Assistance Center, University of Minnesota School of Public Health, in a discussion about national survey data on the uninsured.

Shortly after you register, you will receive a call-in number and an access code. If you do not receive this call-in information by the Monday before the call, please contact Angelique. Agendas and related materials for TA calls will be emailed in advance of the call. With the exception of calls related to legal issues, all TA calls are summarized and posted on the CAP website (www.capcommunity.hrsa.gov). Legal issue briefs are posted on the site under legal issues and require a password, which may be obtained by emailing asmolkin@hrsa.gov. You may also request an audiotape copy of any previous call by contacting Angelique.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND AWARDS

Grant Funding Opportunities from Sound Partners for Community Health

Application Deadline: Preliminary proposals due February 2002.

Sound Partners for Community Health has announced a third round of grant funding to public broadcasters. The grant creates partnerships between public broadcasters and local organizations and communities around health care issues. The funds will go to the creation of radio and television programming and outreach that encourages citizen action in one of five areas: Strengthening the Community During Difficult Times; Providing Quality Care for Children; Caring for the Chronically Ill; Improving Quality of Care; and New Approaches to Reducing Addiction. The program announcement is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/02008.htm>.

RWJ Offers Grants on Improving Communications with Latinos

*Application deadline: January 9, 2002
Conference Call for Letter of Intent Applicants;
Letters of Intent due by February 2002.*

Hablemos Juntos: Improving Patient-Provider Communication for Latinos is a new \$10 million national program intended to improve access to quality health care for Latinos with limited English proficiency. The goal is to explore cost-effective ways for providers to use interpretation and translation in delivering services. The program will provide grants in two phases of up to \$1 million to up to 10 health care provider organizations in communities or catchment areas with new and fast growing Latino populations. The program is open to physician groups, hospitals, health centers, managed care plans and others. For more information, visit <http://www.hablemosjuntos.org/grantmaking> or email Emma.Tsui@cgu.edu.

Pfizer Health Literacy Initiative Grants for 2002

Application Deadline: January 18th

The Pfizer Health Literacy Initiative is part of a commitment to advance health literacy among health care professionals by generating knowledge, creating solutions, supporting research, increasing awareness, and attracting new scholars to its service. The Initiative is accepting applications for a wide variety of grants, including:

* *Visiting Lecturer Grants:* Organizations in diverse fields across the health care, education, and social services spectrum are encouraged to apply. At least 10 grants of up to \$4,500 for expenses for a 1-day visit will be awarded.

* *Community Grants:* Applicants are encouraged from nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations including community health centers, hospitals, and clinics; adult education and literacy organizations; and organizations affiliated with state and local

governments. Interagency partnerships are also encouraged. At least five grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded. Scholarship and research grants are also available.

To learn more about the Pfizer Health Literacy Initiative or the program areas, visit their web site at www.pfizerhealthliteracy.com.

Ford Foundation's Women of Color Initiative: Request for Mini-Proposals

Deadline January 14, 2002

The Ford Foundation's Human Development and Reproductive Health Unit Asset Building and Community Development Program is awarding grants to community-based organizations led by women of color to engage in local advocacy and organizing activities on a specific sexual and reproductive health/rights issue. Mini-proposals are due by mail or email on January 14, 2002. For more information call MCR Consulting at 1-800-211-4596



CONFERENCES, PROGRAMS, AND OTHER NEWS

Clinical Institutes Offer Training for School-Based Health Center

HHS' Health Resources and Services Administration, in partnership with other federal agencies and national associations, is sponsoring a new and intensive training program for school-based health center clinical staff. Five regional clinical institutes are planned and will offer practical training in: HIV/STD risk assessment and intervention; comprehensive health risk assessment and intervention strategies; mental health and substance abuse; and clinical asthma management in children and adolescents. In addition, participants will be able to share information on best practices and available resources. The clinical institutes are scheduled for:

- Jan. 28-29 in Washington, D.C.
- Feb. 25-26 in Dallas
- March 25-26 in San Francisco
- April 8-9 in Boston
- April 29-30 in Chicago

Along with HRSA and HHS' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, other sponsors of the institutes include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the National Association of Community Health Centers.

Meeting and registration information is available on the web at <http://www.clinicalmeetings.com>. For further information, contact the Healthy Schools/Healthy Communities Helpline at 1-888-889-6177 or by sending e-mail to skerin@jwallc.com.

Health Action 2002 National Meeting

Health Action 2002 sponsors a National Consumer Grassroots Meeting in Washington, DC January 17-19, 2002. The goal is to link community leaders and advocates to move forward on a health action agenda. Sessions will cover Medicare and Medicaid issues; expanding health coverage; public health coverage programs; prescription drugs and more. For more information, visit www.familiesusa.org.

REPORTS AND ISSUE BRIEFS

Surgeon General's Report On Childhood Obesity

In a detailed examination of the health problems caused by obesity in the United States, U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher called on schools to take specific actions to reduce overweight in children, including improving school meals; banning foods of minimal nutritional value, including in vending machines; and seeing to it that students have quality physical education in all grades.

The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity is available online at <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/obesity/calltoaction/toc.htm>.

HRSA'S Annual Report on Child Health USA Released

The Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau released its 12th annual report on the health status and service needs of infants, children and adolescents in the United States, "Child Health USA 2001." The report presents data from 59 health status indicators on the target populations of Title V funding, including infants, children, adolescents, children with special health care needs, and women of childbearing age. This year's theme is children with special health care needs. Chapters include: 1) population characteristics 2) health status of infants, children and adolescents 3) health services utilization 4) state-specific data 5) city data and 6) MCH measures and goals. The report is available online at <http://www.mchirc.net/CH-USA.htm> or can be ordered at no cost from the HRSA Information Center (888) ASK-HRSA (275-4772).

New Resources to Address African American Health

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation has launched a website with the mission "to empower people of African descent to make better decisions about their health and that of their community." The site, available at www.cbcbhealth.org, provides factual information about public health issues that directly and indirectly affect this target population.

Hospital Emergency Room Utilization Increases: Communities Respond

According to a new report released by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), there were over 102 million visits to the emergency departments (ED's) of non-federal, short-stay hospitals in the United States in 1999, representing a 14% increase in utilization since 1992. The CDC data shows that ED's currently account for about 10 % of all ambulatory medical care in the United States.

The report notes that the ED visit rate can serve as an indicator of our nation's health and health care system because "if patients have access to primary care providers and appropriate specialists for good preventive care and disease management, they may be less likely to make an ED visit...similarly, national and local focus on safety and injury prevention strategies should reduce both the number and severity of injuries treated in the ED." View the report at http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/series/sr13/150-141/sr13_150.htm.

New Toolkit to End Violence Against Women Released

The National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, a council co-chaired by the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, released a Web-based Toolkit to End Violence Against Women. The toolkit is intended to help policymakers and communities in their efforts to end violence against women.

It is made up of 16 chapters that include action cards, best practices and recommendations for strengthening prevention efforts and improving services and advocacy for victims to assist localities in pinpoint areas of interest. Some of the chapters include: Community-based Services; Health and Mental Health; Educating the Public; Faith-based Groups and Organizations; and Justice System Responses.

The Toolkit is available online at <http://toolkit.ncjrs.org>. For more information about violence against women issues and grant opportunities, visit the Violence Against Women Office Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo>.

Community Voices Releases “What Communities Value About Health and Health Care”

A new publication from Community Voices, "What Communities Value About Health and Health Care," gives voice to 70 million medically underserved Americans. The report includes firsthand accounts of community values and concerns about health and health care, as

well as interesting facts and anecdotal experiences. When combined, these components make a compelling case for strengthening the safety net.

This report is available on the Community Voices web site at www.communityvoices.org. A hard copy of the report may be obtained free of charge by calling 1-800-819-9997 and requesting item #477.

WEB RESOURCES

Finding Health Statistics on the Web

The federal government publishes two annual publications that are rich resources of statistics compiled from numerous government agencies and trade/professional associations.

The first resource is *Health, United States, 2001* from the National Center for Health Statistics at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hus/01hustop.htm>. This publication provides trend data on ambulatory care, inpatient care, determinants and measures of health, health personnel, health facilities, national and state health expenditures, and health care coverage and major federal programs. Each year the report also features an accompanying chart-book with a special focus. This year's chart-book focuses on urban and rural health while previous chart-books have featured topics such as adolescent health and aging and health.

The second publication available is *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 2000* from the U.S. Census Bureau. Both the current and previous five editions are available on the web at <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical-abstract-us.html>. The Statistical Abstract includes not only health statistics but also data on such topics as population; education; law enforcement; social insurance and human services; labor force, employment, and earnings; construction; energy; foreign commerce; transportation; prices; industrial outlook; and much more.

Web Based Homeless and Poverty Statistics

Census on Health Insurance Coverage:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/hlthins.html>

Census on Poverty:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty.html>

Poverty to County Level:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipc/stcity/estimate.html>

Census Report on Homeless:
<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/nshapc/NSHAPC4.html>

HUD's Homeless Data:
<http://www.hud.gov/homeless/index.cfm>

State Data Contacts:
<http://www.census.gov/sdc/www/>

National Coalition for the Homeless:
<http://nch.ari.net/>
<http://www.nch.ari.net>

National Health Care for the Homeless Council:
<http://www.nhchc.org/index.html>

Independent Estimate of Homeless:
<http://www.urban.org/housing/homeless/numbers/toc.htm>

National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty:
<http://www.nlchp.org/>

Homeless Resource Center:
<http://www.prainc.com/hch/>
http://www.prainc.com/nrc/referral_lists.shtml

National Low Income Housing Coalition
<http://www.nlihc.org/>

National Alliance to End Homelessness:
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/index.htm>

National Interfaith Hospitality Network:
<http://www.nihn.org/>